

January 12, 1998

EA 97-625

Mr. S. A. Patulski  
Site Vice President  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant  
Wisconsin Electric Power Company  
6610 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, WI 54241

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORTS 50-266/97025(DRS); 50-301/97025(DRS)

Dear Mr. Patulski:

On December 15, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Point Beach Nuclear Plant. The purpose of the inspection was to review your implementation of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" (the maintenance rule). The results of that inspection are presented in the enclosed report.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the maintenance rule was based on the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated April 1996, which was endorsed by the NRC in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated March 1997.

As a result of the inspection, we concluded that your maintenance rule program was adequately implemented. This conclusion was based on a determination that adequate monitoring of systems and components was being accomplished. Some exceptions to this were identified as violations of the maintenance rule. The first violation involved a failure to include a system and a structure within the scope of the maintenance rule program. The second violation involved three discrete examples of performance measures which could not demonstrate that the associated systems' condition was being effectively controlled through the performance of appropriate preventive maintenance. In addition, the team was concerned by a lack of attention to detail evidenced by the large number of discrepancies identified in performance criteria, scoping, and procedure documents.

The violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.



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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

original signed by G. A. Grobe

John A. Grobe, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-266; 50-301  
License Nos. DPR-24; DPR-27

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation  
2. Inspection Report 50-266/97025(DRS); 50-301/97025(DRS)

cc w/encls: R. R. Grigg, President and  
Chief Operating Officer, WEPCo  
A. J. Cayia, Plant Manager  
B. D. Burks, P.E., Director  
Bureau of Field Operations  
Cheryl L. Parrino, Chairman,  
Wisconsin Public Service Commission  
State Liaison Officer

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